Acquisition Reform Success Story



Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM)

Program Manager: Col Rick Dickson

PEO: Mr. Harry Schulte

Contractor: Hughes Aircraft Co., Raytheon Co **Contractor PM**: Mr. Chuck Anderson, Hughes

Mr. Jim Wilson, Raytheon

Program Description

The AIM-120 AMRAAM is a new generation air-to-air missile. It has an all-weather, beyond-visual-range capability and is scheduled to be operational beyond the year 2000. AMRAAM is the premier air-to-air weapon of choice by America's aviators against low-altitude targets. It incorporates an active radar with an inertial reference unit and micro-computer system, which makes the missile less dependent upon the fire-control system of the aircraft. Once the missile closes on a target, its active radar guides it to intercept. This enables the pilot to aim and fire several missiles simultaneously at multiple targets. The pilot may then perform evasive maneuvers while the missiles guide themselves to their targets.

How Streamlining Made a Difference

By replacing oversight with insight, the AMRAAM program office teamed with industry to create an environment where the primes are now equal partners in striving for AMRAAM success. Planning and executing a strategic block concept for hardware/software changes, improved integration with aircraft platforms was acheived. As a result, reliability exceeds the warfighter's requirement by 400 percent and a 10 year bumper-to-bumper warranty--the first for munitions--was obtained. However, the real suuccess story is the Buy To Budget philosophy which bought the warfighters 407 more AMRAAMs.

Measure	Lot 10
Source selection team	Reduced by 50%
Paper	Cut by 55%
Required data	Decreased by 30%
Certified cost and pricing data	Eliminated

Bottom Line: Empowered government's contractor plant inspectors with equipment certification and engineering change approval authority (doing it **better**), spearheaded transition to IPTs by both government and contractor (doing it **faster**), prices slashed by 33% over last four years(doing it **cheaper**).